The MARQUIS of CARABAS his PICTURE BOOK

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THE

MARQUIS OF CARABAS'

PICTURE BOOK

CONTAINING

PUSS IN BOOTS
OLD MOTHER HUBBARD
VALENTINE AND ORSON
THE ABSURD A B C

WITH

THIRTY-TWO PAGES OF ILLUSTRATIONS BY WALTER CRANE.

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PUSS IN BOOTS.

A MILLER lay dying,—he made his last will;
He left his three sons his cat, ass, and mill:
To the eldest the mill, to the second the ass;
The third had the cat, and he cried out, "Alas!
I must starve now, unless I take Pussy to eat!"

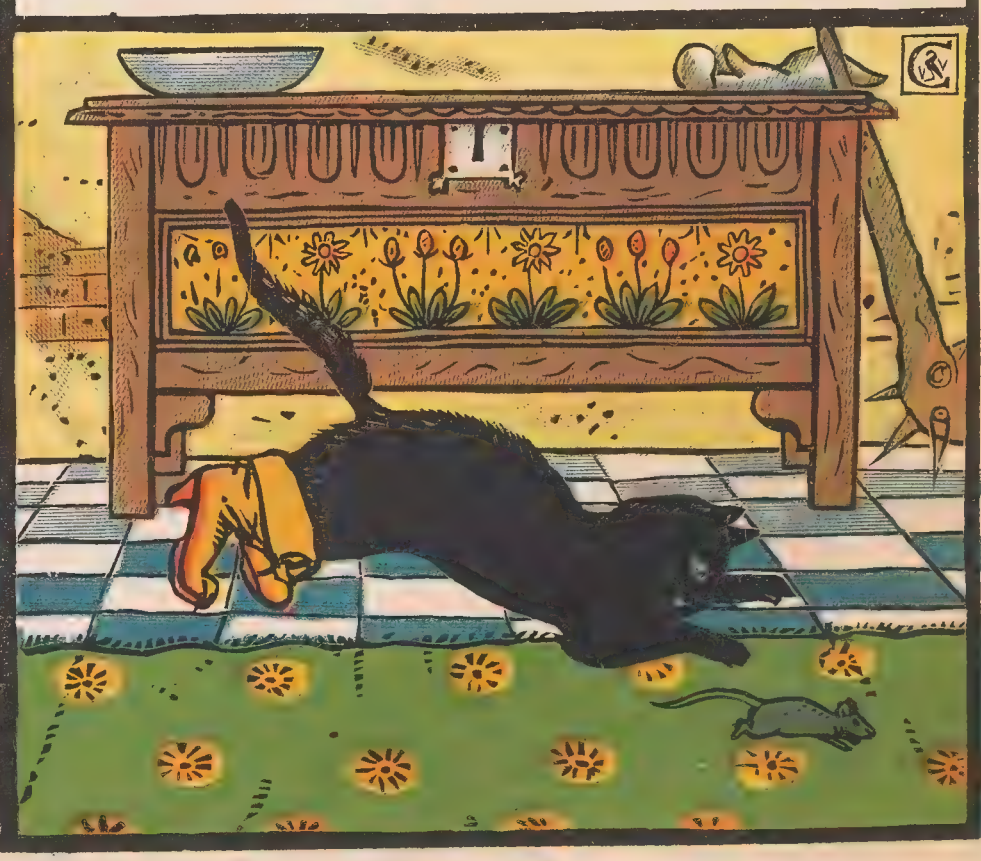
"No, Master," said Puss, "give me boots to my feet—
A pair of top-boots—and please leave me alive,
And you shall just see how we'll flourish and thrive."

So the Puss put on boots, and he started abroad,
And caught a fine rabbit just near the high-road,
Which he took to the palace, and gave to the King:
"This I from the Marquis of Carabas bring."
Again Puss went hunting, and carried the prey
To the King, with the Marquis's duty, each day.

One morn, said the Cat to his Master, "I pray
You to go and to bathe in the river to-day;
The Marquis of Carabas, too, you must be,
And leave all the rest of the business to me."
Now, while the King down by the river passed by,
He heard dismal cries of—"Help! help! or he'll die!
The Marquis of Carabas drowns!—O my master!"
The King sent his guards to avert the disaster.
The Miller's son finds himself pulled out, and drest
In all that his Majesty had of the best;

And being well dried and well rid of the water,
Was then introduced by the King to his daughter,
And invited to drive in the King's coach-and-four;
And Puss, who had managed all, hurried before,
And seeing men reaping some very fine corn,
Said to them, "You will wish that you'd never been born,
If you don't tell the King, who is now near at hand,
That the Marquis of Carabas owns all this land."
And all whom he met he commanded the same,
To magnify further the Marquis's name.

At last he arrived at a castle so grand,
Which belonged to an Ogre, as well as the land;
Puss conversed with the Ogre, who said that he could
Assume any shape that he chose—bad or good,
Great or small—as he'd show; and the Ogre, so fussy,
Turned into a mouse, and was swallowed by Pussy.
At this moment his Majesty's carriage was heard;
Puss hurried down stairs, and he shortly appeared
At the door, flung wide open before they could ring:
"The Marquis of Carabas welcomes the King!"



The Miller's son thus became lord of the place,
And he feasted the King with much grandeur and grace.
After dinner, his Majesty, smiling and bland,
Said, "Marquis of Carabas, give us your hand;
And if there is aught that seems goodly of ours—
Yes, even our daughter—dear Marquis, 'tis yours."
So the Miller's son married the Princess next day,
And Puss was a groomsman, in top-boots so gay;
For the Marquis of Carabas owed him his life—
His lands and his corn-fields—his castle and wife.

OLD Mother Hubbard
Went to the cupboard
To get her poor Dog a bone;
But when she came there
The cupboard was bare,
And so the poor Dog had none.

She went to the baker's
To buy him some bread,
But when she came back,
The poor Dog was dead.

She went to the joiner's
To buy him a coffin,
But when she came back,
The poor Dog was laughing

She took a clean dish
To get him some tripe,
But when she came back,
He was smoking a pipe.

She went to the ale-house
To get him some beer,
But when she came back,
The Dog sat in a chair.

She went to the tavern
For white wine and red,
But when she came back,
The Dog stood on his head

She went to the hatter's,
To buy him a hat,
But when she came back,
He was feeding the cat.

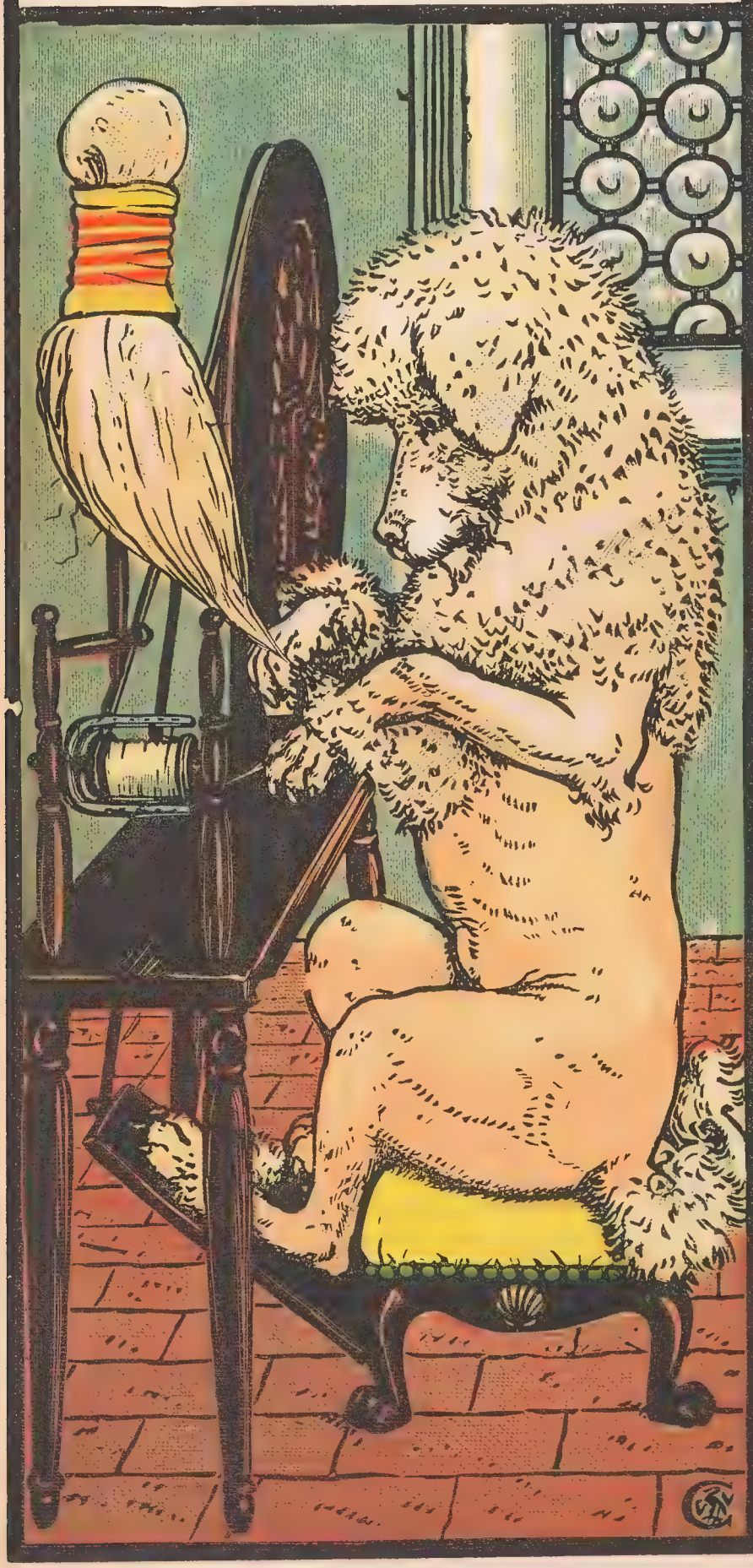
She went to the barber's
To buy him a wig,
But when she came back,
He was dancing a jig.

She went to the fruiterer's
To buy him some fruit,
But when she came back,
He was playing the flute

She went to the tailor's
To buy him a coat,
But when she came back,
He was riding a goat.

She went to the cobbler's
To buy him some shoes,
But when she came back,
He was reading the news.

She went to the sempstress
To buy him some linen,
But when she came back,
The Dog was a-spinning.

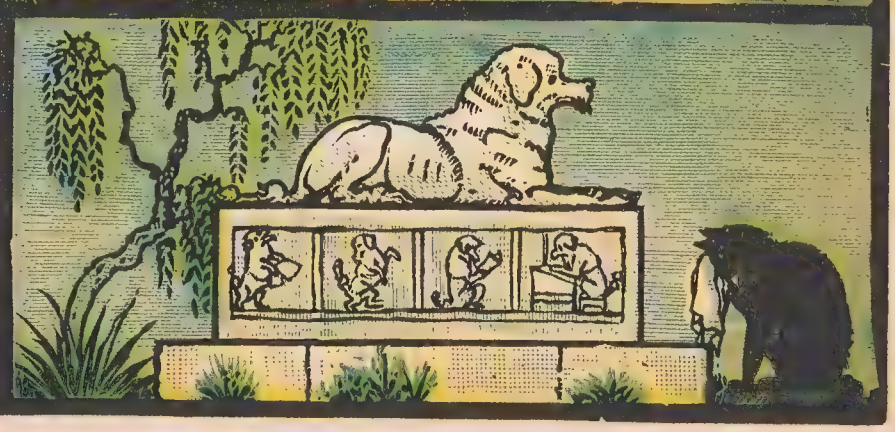


She went to the hosier's
To buy him some hose,
But when she came back,
He was drest in his clothes.

The Dame made a curtsey,
The Dog made a bow;
The Dame said, "Your servant,"
The Dog said, "Bow wow!"

This wonderful Dog
Was Dame Hubbard's delight,
He could sing, he could dance,
He could read, he could write.

She gave him rich dainties
Whenever he fed,
And erected a monument
When he was dead.



ONCE on a time an Emperor, a man of might and fame,
Married a wife, and fair was she, and Bellisant her name;
And fair and happy were their lives, until an evil man
(He was the High Priest of the Court) an evil tale began,
Of how the lady was not true unto her husband dear:
The Emperor believed the tale, and rose up in great fear,
And drove poor Bellisant away; in haste and dire mischance
She took her way to Pepin's Court (her brother, King of France)

And as she fled, weighed down by grief and sense of cruel scorn,
Lo, in the forest two fair sons to Bellisant were born;
But while her servant went to buy some food, a great she-bear
Came up, and carried off one child unto her distant lair.
Poor Bellisant ran after her, with many a sigh and moan;
In vain,—and when she turned again, the other child was gone!

Now, Pepin chanced that very day to hunt with all his train
In that same wood, and found the child ere she came back again;
And took him home, and brought him up, and gave him all things fine—
Apparel, horses, and a name,—so he was VALENTINE.
And brave and fair he grew,—King Pepin's daughter loved him well;
The sons were jealous. Now will I his brother's story tell

The she-bear and her savage cubs, they saved the child alive,
And nursed him well, and tended him,—well did he grow and thrive.
They called him Orson; in the woods he lived, a strong wild man,
And all he fought he killed with ease; and so a wicked plan
Was made by Pepin's sons for getting rid of Valentine,
Whom they induced to fight with him, by flattering words and fine.
But Valentine was conqueror, and Orson owned his might,
And served and followed him alway; and they were squire and knight.

Now, in that land there dwelt a man, the
Green Knight he was called,
Who by his strength and magic arts a lady
fair enthralled,
And kept in prison dark and strong, and none
could set her free;
Not even Valentine prevailed, with all his
bravery.

But Orson threw the Green Knight down, and
bound him with a chain,
And set the lady free; both brothers then
start off to gain
The Green Knight's castle-gates,—two roaring
lions kept guard there,
But down they crouched when they beheld the
brothers void of fear.

And there within the castle hall they saw a head of brass,
That uttered marvels,—of their birth, and how it came to pass;
How in a convent lonely was their mother Bellisant;
How the King and Queen of France were their uncle and their aunt;
How the High Priest had confessed his lies, with many tears and groans;
How the Emperor, their father, was in search of wife and sons.
So the lost were found, the wrong made right, by all good rule and line;
They married well, and lived long years—ORSON and VALENTINE.

A for the APPLE
or Alphabet pie,
Which all get a slice
of. Come taste it & try.

EFGHIJKLMN

C for the
CAT that
played on
the fiddle,
When cows
jumped
higher than
'Heigh
Diddle,
Diddle!

D for the
DAME
with her
pig at the
stile,
'Tis said
they got
over, but
not yet
a while.

B is the
BABY
who gave
Mr Bunting
Full many
a long day's
rabbit skin
hunting.

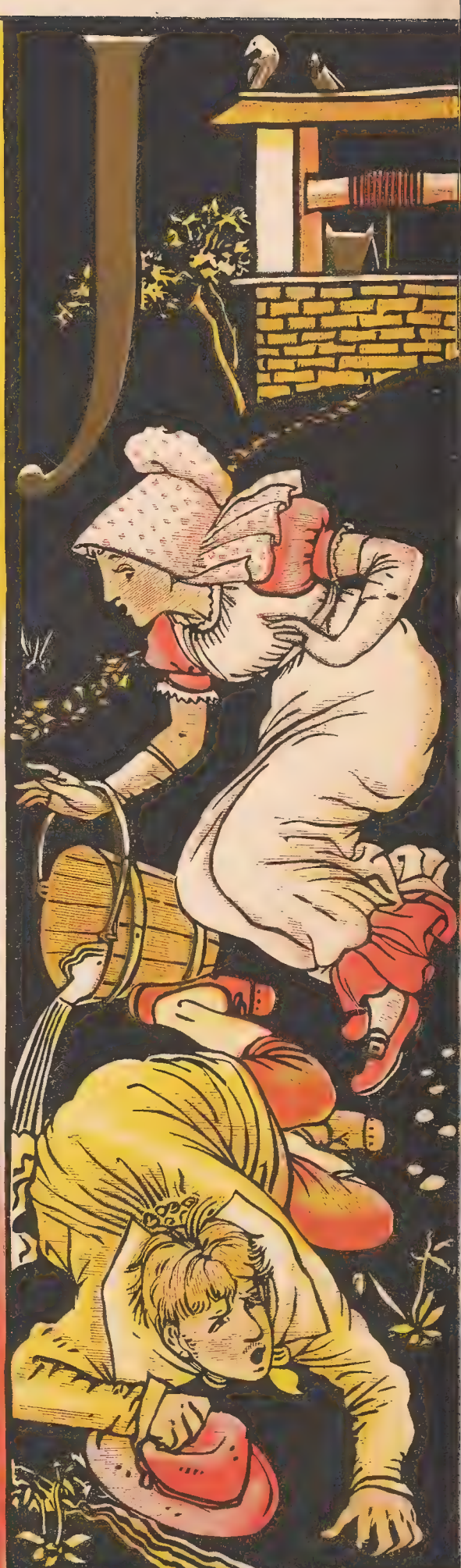
E for the Englishman,
ready to make fast
The giant who wanted to
have him for breakfast.

F for the Frog in the story,
you know,
Begun with a wooing but
ending in woe.

G for Goosey Gander
who wandered upstairs,
And met the old man
who objected to prayers.

H for poor Humpty who
after his fall.
Felt obliged to resign his
seat on the wall.

I for the Inn where they
would-n't give beer,
To one with too much
and no money, I fear.



J does for poor Jack and
also for Jill,
Who had so disastrous
a tumble down hill.

K L M N O P

L for Little man, gun and bullets complete,
Who shot the poor duck, and was proud of the feat.

N for the Numerous children - they who
Were often too much for their mother in Shoe

the Old person that cobwebs did spy,
And went up to sweep e'm Oh ever so high!

K for calm Kitty, at dinner who sat,
While all the good folks watched the dog & the cat.

M for Miss Muffet, with that horrid spider,
Just dropped into tea and a chat beside her.

P for the Pie made of blackbirds to sing,
A song fit for supper a dish for a king.

Q for Queen Anne
who sat in the sun
Till she, more than the lily
resembled the bun

R stands for Richard &
Robert, those men
Who didn't get up one
fine morning till ten!

S for the Snail that showed
wonderful fight,
Putting no less than twenty-
four tailors to flight!

T stands for Tom, the son of the piper,
May his principles change as his years grow riper.

U for the Unicorn, keeping his eye on
The coveted crown, and its counsel the Lion.

V for the Victuals, including the drink,
The old woman lived on surprising to think!

W X Y

W for the WOMAN who not over nice, Made very short work of the three blind mice

Z for the Zany who looked like a fool, For when he was young he neglected his school.

School Board

X is the X that is found upon buns, Which daughters not li-king, may come in for sons.

Y for Yan-kee Doodle of ancient renown, Both he & his pony that took him to town.

Z

ARIT
WRIT
READIN